

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The start of a new frame is indicated by the start-of-frame input pulse signal 1038. Each three-parallel syndrome generator 800 completes syndrome calculations in 85 cycles and produces 16 syndromes every 85 cycles. Each set of 16 syndromes is generated from one block of 255 symbols. Each three-parallel syndrome generator 800 determines syndromes for three bytes of one codeword. For instance, referring briefly to FIG. 4 in addition to FIG. 10, bytes indicated by reference numerals 451, 452, and 453 are routed to three-parallel syndrome generator (1) 800, which performs syndrome calculations in one cycle for these bytes. Similarly, bytes indicated by reference numerals 461, 462, and 463 are routed to three-parallel syndrome generator ~~(1)~~(2) 800, which performs syndrome calculations in one cycle for these bytes.